

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEL AV 04689 071439Z
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----040107 071441Z /45
O 071420Z APR 78 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2446
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 4689

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, IS, US
SUBJ: TERRORIST ATTACK MARCH 11

REF: (A) STATE 087910, (B) TEL AVIV 4636

1. COLONEL WILLIAMS MET WITH IDF REPRESENTATIVES ON APRIL 7, 1978 TO RECEIVE COPIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN OF THE M16A1 CAPTURED BY THE IDF AFTER THE TERRORIST RAID ON MARCH 11. THE IDF HAS MADE A BLOW-UP OF THE SYMBOL ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER, WHICH IS BEING FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT BY LETTER WITH REGISTRY O. 386962.

2. THE IDF TOOK THE OCCASION TO PRESENT A PHOTOGRAPH OF ANOTHER M16A1 RIFLE, SERIAL NUMBER 303100, WHICH THEY STATE WAS CAPTURED IN SOUTHERN LEBANON. A SYMBOL SIMILAR TO THAT FOUND ON THE RIFLE CAPTURED DURING THE TERRORIST RAID ALSO APPEARS ON THIS SECOND RIFLE. HOWEVER, THE STAMPING IS ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE RECEIVER ABOVE THE SERIAL NUMBER AS OPPOSED TO THE RIGHT SIDE. ADDITIONALLY, THIS INSIGNIA DOES NOT HAVE THE SEMI-CIRCULAR BAR AT THE BOTTOM CONNECTING THE TWO CROSSED RIFLES. OTHERWISE IT APPEARS TO BE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 TEL AV 04689 071439Z

THE SAME.

3. KNOWING THAT SAUDI ARABIA HAD ONLY PURCHASED TWO M16A1'S, WILLIAMS CHALLENGED THE IDF AS TO THEIR INITIAL IDENTIFICATION OF THE SYMBOL AS THAT OF THE SAUDI ROYAL ARMED FORCES. THE IDF REP, SOMEWHAT CHAGRINED, ADMITTED THAT THE IDF NOW BELIEVES THAT THE SYMBOL MAY BE THAT OF LEBANON AND NOT OF SAUDI ARABIA.

4. COMMENT: THIS TURN OF EVENTS TAKES PLACE AFTER THE JERUSALEM POST ARTICLE WHICH SAYS THAT TERRORISTS WERE ARMED WITH US-ORIGIN WEAPONS WHICH BORE SAUDI MARKINGS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT RUNNING A CHECK ON THE TWO M16A1 SERIAL NUMBERS PROVIDED TO DATE, AS WELL AS THAT OF THE M203 GRENADE LAUNCHER, IN ORDER TO DETERMINE IF INDEED THEY WERE SOLD OR GIVEN TO LEBANON. WE FEEL THAT ANY RECLAMA TO THE JERUSALEM POST ARTICLE HERE WOULD BE FRUITLESS, BUT WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IN ORDER TO PRESENT WEIZMAN AND CO. WITH THE FACTS.

5. BY SEPTEL WE ARE ASKING BEIRUT FOR A DESCRIPTION OF ANY SYMBOL STAMPED ON LEBANESE ARMY EQUIPMENT.
LEWIS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, TERRORISTS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 apr 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Format: TEL
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780479/aaaacozb.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 41de34b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TERRORIST ATTACK MARCH 11
TAGS: MASS, IS, US, LE, SA
To: STATE SS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
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